

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANA 02007 260524Z

11
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

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R 231240Z JUL 75
FM AMEMBASSY SANA
TO SECSTATE WASHN 6026
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

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EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINR, YE
SUBJECT: YEMEN ASSIGNS RESIDENCE AMBASSADOR TO AMMAN

REF: SANA 0965

1. YAR MFA ANNOUNCED JULY 18 ASSIGNMENT MUHAMMAD ABDAL QADUS AL-WAZIR AS RESIDENT AMBASSADOR TO AMMAN. MOVE IS IN LINE WITH POLITICAL INTERESTS GIVEN IMPORTANCE AND INFLUENCE OF JORDANIAN MILITARY ADVISORY PRESENCE IN YEMEN ARMED FORCES.

2. AMBASSADOR AL-WAZIR WAS BORN IN SANAA ABOUT 1930. HE IS A MEMBER OF A LARGE AND POLITICALLY PROMINENT FAMILY, THE AL-WAZIRS, WHO WERE RIVALS TO THE HAMID AL-DIN FAMILY FOR THE THRONE OF YEMEN. (ONE MEMBER, ABDALLAH AL-WAZIR ASSASSINATED IMAM YAHYA IN 1948 AND WAS IN TURN EXECUTED BY THE LATTER'S SON IMAM AHMAD WHEN HIS COUP D'ETAT FAILED.) AMBASSADOR AL-WAZIR SERVED PREVIOUSLY IN ROME AS THE HEAD OF THE IMAM'S DIPLOMATIC MISSION PRIOR TO THE 1962 REVOLUTION.

3. AT THE TIME OF THE REVOLUTION, AL-WAZIR WAS IN YEMEN AND WAS IMPRISONED BY THE PRO-EGYPTIAN REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF MARSHALL SALLAL.

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PAGE 02 SANA 02007 260524Z

4. AL WAZIR WAS ABLE TO LEAVE YEMEN AND SERVED

BRIEFLY WITH ROYALIST GOVERNMENT IN EXILE BUT IN LATTER YEARS OF CIVIL WAR, AL-WAZIR WAS ONE OF LEADERS OF "THIRD FORCE" MOVEMENT, CENTERED IN BEIRUT, WHICH OPPOSED CONTINUED EGYPTIAN MILITARY PRESENT IN YEMEN AND FAVORED RECONCILIATION BETWEEN ROYALIST AND REPUBLICAN SIDES.

5. FOLLOWING END OF CIVIL WAR IN 1970, AL-WAZIR ACTIVE IN SEVERAL POST-WAR GOVERNMENTS AND SYMBOLIZED RETURN OF EXILES TO ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT OF YEMEN. HE THEN RETURNED TO ROME AS YARG CHARGE. FOLLOWING THIS ASSIGNMENT, WAS FOR SHORT PERIODS OF TIME MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER FOR LOCAL ADMINISTRATION IN AYNI CABINETS. APPOINTED ENVOY TO LEBANON 1974 BUT TOUR INTERRUPTED BY DETERIORATION IN LEBANESE-YEMENI RELATIONS WHICH FOLLOWED SEVERAL ATTACKS ON YEMENIS LIVING OR VISITING BEIRUT.

6. AL-WAZIR DESCRIBED AS AN AFFABLE INTELLIGENT AND QUITE OPEN MAN. AS MINAGRCULTURE HE ALSO HAD REPUTATION FOR HONESTY, UNLIKE SOME OF HIS PREDECESSORS AND SUCCESSORS. BELIEVED TO SPEAK ITALIAN WELL, HIS ENGLISH IS PASSABLE. HE IS VERY WELL DISPOSED TO USG. SCOTES

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Message Attributes

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